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\*\*\*\*\* IP DEPARTMENT \*\*\*\*\* 952 402 8187 \*\*\*\*\*



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### Fax Transmission | May 17, 2004

**TO:** Commissioner for Patents  
 Attn: Allen J. Heinz  
 Patent Examining Corps  
 Facsimile Center  
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**FROM:** Brendan J. Hanley

**OUR REF:** 9780.00  
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Total pages, including cover letter: 8

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Documents Transmitted: Fax Cover Sheet, Reply and Amendments Under 37  
 C.F.R. 1.111  
 Applicant: Boutaghou et al  
 Serial No.: 09/897,779  
 Filed: June 29, 2001  
 Group Art Unit: 2653  
 Our Ref. No.: 9780.00

Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0372. Please consider this a PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME for sufficient number of months to enter these papers, if appropriate.

By: Brendan J. Hanley  
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PATENT APPLICATION  
RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR § 1.111  
EXAMINING GROUP 2600

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Re App:	Boutaghou et al.	Date:	May 17, 2004
S.N.:	09/897,779	Docket No.:	STL 9780.00
Filed:	June 29, 2001	Examiner:	Allen J. Heinz
For:	BI-LEVEL CAVITY FOR A SLIDER AIR-BEARING SURFACE	Art Unit:	2653

REPLY AND AMENDMENTS UNDER 37 CFR 1.111

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Applicant submits the following response from the Office Action dated February 17, 2004. For the reasons detailed below, the pending claims are believed to be in a condition for allowance.